

**REMARKS**

Reconsideration and allowance of the above-referenced application are respectfully requested.

**I. Status of claims:**

Claims 1, 4, 7, 8, 12 and 13 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Sato (U.S. Patent No. 6,515,704). Claims 5, 9, 14 and 16 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sato and Bullock (U.S. Patent No. 5,943,050). Claims 2, 3, and 6 are cancelled, and claims 10, 11, and 15 are withdrawn from consideration.

In view of the above, claims 1, 4, and 6-16 are pending and under consideration in the present application.

**II. Rejection of claims 1, 4, 7, 8, 12, and 13 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e), Sato; Rejection of claims 5, 9, 14, and 16 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), Sato in view of Bullock.**

Sato provides a display screen with a main image display portion (101) at the center of the screen for displaying a photographing preview and a plurality of subwindows (102-113) surrounding the main image display (101) for viewing thumbnail images (see, col. 4, lines 32-40 and FIG. 2). When it is determined that a photographing operation is performed (i.e., user depresses the shutter), the thumbnail images displayed on the subwindows (102-113) at the peripheral portion of the main image display (101) are updated so that the thumbnail image of the new photograph is placed in an appropriate one of the subwindows (102-113) (see, col. 4, line 64 through col. 5, line 9). Therefore, Sato is limited to placing the thumbnail image resulting from the photographing operation in the sub subwindows (102-113).

Sato, at col. 4, lines 42-51, specifically states that the thumbnail images are sequentially displayed in the subwindows (102-113) in time series, in the clockwise direction every time a new image is photographed (see, col. 5, lines 10-16), or at a predetermined window set as the initial position (see, col. 6, lines 35-39). That is, Sato predefines the display positions of the thumbnail images to restricted positions and does not have the capability or provide an option for inserting the images at desirable positions.

However, Sato fails to disclose the features as recited in independent claims 1, 7, 12, and 16 (as amended herein). That is, Sato does not disclose “a display unit displaying a screen configured by a first display area displaying an image from an image acquisition device, and a second display area displaying a sequence of images” and “an inserting unit inserting the image

data in a desirable position between images of said sequence of images” (see, for example, independent claim 1 of the present invention).

Bullock discloses displaying sequentially captured images on a work-surface of the computer display and only displays a captured image adjacent to an image capture window (see, col. 6, lines 3-6, FIGS. 5 and 6 and corresponding text). However, Bullock also does not disclose “a display unit displaying a screen configured by a first display area displaying an image from an image acquisition device, and a second display area displaying a sequence of images” and “an inserting unit inserting the image data in a desirable position between images of said sequence of images” (see, for example, independent claim 1 of the present invention).

Therefore, Sato and Bullock, either alone or in combination, do not disclose or suggest the features as recited in independent claims 1, 7, 12, and 16.

Dependent claim 4 (depending from claim 1), claims 8 and 9 (depending from claim 7), and claims 13 and 14 (depending from claim 12) recite patentably distinguishing features of their own, and further, are at least patentably distinguishing due to their dependencies from independent claims 1, 7, and 12. For example, as recited in claim 4, when image data is inserted in the desired position within the sequence of image data, “the image data already displayed are shifted frame by frame in a predetermined direction and thus displayed.” Sato and Bullock, either alone or in combination, do not disclose or suggest the features recited in claim 4 (see also claims 8 and 13).

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the rejections of the claims are overcome.

### **III. Conclusion**

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that each of the claims patentably distinguishes over the prior art, and therefore defines allowable subject matter. A prompt and favorable reconsideration of the rejection along with an indication of allowability of all pending claims are therefore respectfully requested.

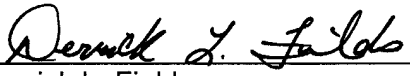
Serial No. 09/788,387

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Respectfully submitted,

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Date: 1-3-07

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